

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions of claims in the application.

Listing of the Claims:

Claim 1. (Currently Amended) A method for identifying a fungicide comprising:

- (a) contacting a candidate compound with fungal 20S proteasomes in the presence of a substrate of the fungal 20S proteasomes and in the presence of from 2 to 10% (v/v) dimethyl sulphoxide,
- (b) selecting those candidate compounds which specifically inhibit an enzymatic conversion of the substrate by the fungal 20S proteasomes, and
- (c) testing for the fungicidal action of those candidate compounds on fungi in an *in vivo* assay.

Claims 2-11. (Cancelled)

Claim 12. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 1 ~~or 2~~ wherein said method is a high throughput screening assay.